

Are we still colored?

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Volume 12, Number 24

Carl Williams sworn in as Asbury Park's new mayor

by Ron Holland

ASBURY PARK—Deputy Mayor Carl Williams Jr. was sworn in as mayor of Asbury Park as a result of a 3-to-2 vote last Thursday evening. Williams said that he did not seek the position, but would not refuse it.

At Reinoso and John Hamilton Jr. were ceremonially sworn in as council members before the standing room audience of family and friends in City Hall Chambers.

Williams, 54, has a year in the mayoral seat which will up with the others for re-election next fall. Despite reports of being "pressured" to vote for councilman Al Reinoso for mayor, Williams said he is still committed to working with the council members.

Reinoso and Hamilton Jr. were voted to take office during the recall election of Mayor Patricia Candiano earlier this month (City News March 6 issue). Lawson Jahnke also formed the address, councilman Angelo Chinetti's seat last fall was voted a deputy mayor.

PLAINFIELD GETS ON THE SUPER HIGHWAY

PLAINFIELD—In order to provide more information to the computer generated, Plainfield has established a web page on the World Wide Web, a segment of the Internet. The website, found at <http://www.plainfield.com>, is still in its infancy, but will provide information for those who so access it.

Initially, it will be able to provide information on Plainfield's history, demographics, recycling schedule. Also available are facts on the municipal government. In the future building permits, health certificates, and other information will be on the system.

The city can now receive e-mail at the new home page, addressed to a city official. Plainfield has established the address, www.plainfield.com, but letter writers should know that e-mail at this point is not confidential and is routed through the office of John DiPace, the city's telecommunications systems analyst.

STATE THREATENS TAKEOVER

NEWARK—State regulators have barred Newark from issuing any construction code permits and are threatening to take over the city's permit office, which state inspectors declared "totally out of control."

Under further notice, this action will bar Newark from issuing documents essential to the building and home improvements industries—certificates of occupancy and construction, plumbing, electrical, fire and demolition permits.

To prevent a state takeover, Newark hastily appointed Charles Bishop, a longtime Engr. meeting Director Bureau. Bishop, who was named both construction code official and fire subcode official. The state prohibited Newark from issuing any permits early this month after weeks of letters if no sign of temporary appointments holding the titles of construction official and fire subcode official for the next two years. State law only allows interim officials for 60 days.

HOSPITALS MERGE TO GIVE BETTER CARE

NEW BRUNSWICK—In order to provide better care for patients, two hospitals have joined together in a merger. Patients will be able to access a wider range of medical care now than Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield, and Robert Wood Johnson Health System in New Brunswick have officially come together.

The new affiliation, announced, signed by chief executive officers John Kopnick of Muhlenberg and Harvey A. Holberg of Robert Wood Johnson in New Brunswick, will allow for increased care and transferring of staff people to the new Brunswick Hospital for specialized care. The program will also help offset operating expenses for both hospitals.

Kopnick said the affiliation will let Muhlenberg "do more with less" and Holberg said the plan will allow for Muhlenberg's "outstanding primary care" the benefit of his hospital's status as a "statewide resource in tertiary care" with the newest in technology and treatment.

Muhlenberg, with 396 beds serves residents in the greater Plainfield, tri-county area. Robert Wood Johnson health system will serve in its 10 affiliated

See HOSPITALS MERGE page 10

Internet parade passing by small businesses



Serving New Jersey's African-American Community Since 1983

March 20 - March 26, 1996

MOTORISTS TARGETED

TRENTON (AP)—State troopers are using so-called profile stops on Interstate 76 by pulling over black and Hispanic motorists because of their race, several state public defenders claim.

The public defenders say they are preparing to mount a court challenge to the profile stops, similar to a case decided Friday.

In that case, a judge in Gloucester County ruled that state troopers targeted and pulled over black and Hispanic drivers on the New Jersey Turnpike over a four-year period simply because of their race.

Superior Court Judge Robert G. Francis' ruling means evidence state police gathered against the motorists who brought the case cannot be used against them in court. The case was brought by 19 minority motorists who were stopped on the turnpike between exits 1 and 3 from 1988 to 1991 and were arrested for drug or weapons possession.

In the latest charge of profile stops, Assistant Deputy Public De-

fender Carol Skarpetowski, who works in the Flemington office said that she has filed that in 24 stops that led to drug arrests on I-76 between Clinton Township and the Warren County line between October 1994 and last October, all but one of the accused were black or Hispanic.

Skarpetowski said Superior Court Judge Marilyn R. Herr in Hunterdon County has approved her request that the State Police produce records to show the percentages of blacks, Hispanics and whites stopped on the high-

way from October 1994 to last October.

"What got me to decide that this is an important issue in Hunterdon County is the large percentage of blacks and Hispanics who complained they had a spotlight shined across the road into the car," Skarpetowski said. "That's scary to me."

Assistant Public Defender Dale E. Jones, the state's second-ranking public defender, said based on staff suspicions that profile stops have been occurring on I-76, he sent Deputy

Public Defender Tom Scully to Hunterdon County to examine the cases.

"Tom expressed deep concerns to me about the types of stops he saw," Jones said.

State Police Superintendent Col. Carl A. Williams said he did not know of the new profile stop accusations and said troopers are under standing orders to stop motorists only for a justifiable cause.

See MOTORISTS' page 10

Plainfield Foodtown to close



One of many flyers distributed around Plainfield seeking supporters for the Saturday, March 16 picket outside the town's South Ave. Foodtown.

by Kelly Howard

PLAINFIELD—"Where will we shop?" is the question on the lips of the residents of Plainfield after hearing that the city's only major supermarket will close permanently on April 13.

The announcement of the store's demise was made by a spokesman of the Connecticut-based company that operates the store.

"At this time I can only say the

store will be closing on April 13 and it will stay closed," said Tonya Lyons, spokeswoman for the Edwards Super Store chain in Windsor Locks, Conn. when she was asked why the store was closing and were their chances of an Edwards Super Store opening in its place.

Edwards' corporate parent—Dutch food retailer Royal Ahold NV—purchased 28 Foodtown stores from Mayfair Supermarkets in Elizabeth last summer. With other stores in cities such as, Westfield, South Plainfield, Edison, Hillsdale, Highland Park and Metuchen, the Plainfield store is the only one closing and has many wondering if the reason behind that is because of race.

"If this store was in a predominantly white area it wouldn't be closing," said Plainfield resident Eric Jackson. "Look how the others stores they own aren't closing."

Not only does Foodtown serve the heavily minority-based community of Plainfield, but it also serves as the store of choice for many residents in the communities of Scotch Plains and Fanwood.

When asked if the closing had to do with race Lyons said they had "no

comment on that at this time," but when informed that the store also serviced two almost all-white communities she was very surprised and said that she "did not know that."

"I don't know where I'm going to shop," said an elderly Fanwood woman. "I refuse to go to A&P, they charge too much for their food."

Foodtown will be the second chain supermarket to close in Plainfield in the last six months. A&P on Park Avenue and Seventh Street closed its doors the fall of last year.

At press time the city had no direct plan on how and what to do about the situation, but Elizabeth Urquhart, City Councilwoman, said that on the agenda of the council's next meeting the mayor and the administrator will probably try to work with Edwards representatives to resolve the situation.

"As a life-long resident of Plainfield, it is with regret that I head off the Foodtown closing," said Urquhart. "I wish that the city officials and residents so that this could be remedied. This is a serious situation and it needs to be discussed and remedied."

President Clinton vows to clean up environment

by Ron Fournier

HACKENSACK (AP)—In a stunning denunciation of Republican clean-air policies, President Clinton accused Congress on Monday of engineering an "anti-environmental campaign" in concert with industrial lobbyists.

Making his first election-year address on the environment, the President proposed \$2 billion in tax breaks for companies that clean up and develop land contaminated by toxic waste. And he promised more votes for bills he thinks would undermine the environment.

"When it comes to protecting our air, our food, our water, I cannot sacrifice America's values or America's future," Clinton told a crowd of 6,000 at Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Fighting a bad winter cold, the president also invoked New York City to be honored as *Irish America* magazine's "Irish American of the Year."

In his main address of the day, the President called for a bipartisan



President Bill Clinton

approach to environmental control. "It is incredible to me now that the environment has, for the first time in a generation, become a source of political division," the president said.

His voice cracking from his cold, President Clinton added, "Congress has mounted the most aggressive anti-environmental campaign in our

See PRESIDENT VOWS' page 9

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH SPECIAL

Viscarrondo-DeSoto to head United Way

NEWARK—"If we all work together, we can ensure that our three communities provide a vital and resourceful environment," said Maria Viscarrondo-DeSoto, the newly appointed president and CEO of the United Way, Essex and West Hudson. Recently selected Viscarrondo-DeSoto is currently Essex County Surrogate and she will resign her elected post of County Surrogate and assume her new position on April 1, 1996.

In response to the announcement of her selection, Viscarrondo-DeSoto said, "I consider this both a privilege and an opportunity. I am looking forward to working with United Way staff, community-based organizations and both public and private sectors to address the diverse needs of the community."

Viscarrondo-DeSoto's selection is the culmination of a national five-month search conducted by United Way steering committee which was chaired by Sam Crane,

president of the Regional Business Partnership. Crane noted that she was nominated by a coalition of community organizations.

A long time Newark resident, she is recognized as a leader within the community and has received numerous awards for her work in education and community service. She serves on numerous boards of organizations that focus on a variety of problems ranging from food programs and drug abuse to the status of women and minorities.

"The United Way is moving in a new direction, having identified key problem areas and restructured the fund distribution process," said Viscarrondo-DeSoto. "Through the implementation of the new strategic plan, Blueprint for Change, I hope to put the United Way on the map as an enabling organization. It should be on the cutting edge in bringing about change—positive change—to enhance the quality of life for everyone who lives or works in the

three communities served by United Way of Essex and West Hudson."



Maria Viscarrondo-DeSoto

Prior to her election as County Surrogate, Viscarrondo-DeSoto was the director of the Center for His-

See VISCARRONDO-DESOTO' page 10

Young men of color making a change

ROSELLE—"They need that extra touch of love and caring to help keep them on the right track," said Denise Ware, founder of the self-help group, Men of Color Making a Change.

The organization for high school boys in Roselle is one of the outcomes from the positive effects of the Million Man March last October. Ware, a teacher's aide at Roselle High School, started the organization to help young black men stay on track.

Men of Color Making a Change began with just meetings and learning sessions about their race and how to stay positive in an often negative world. The lessons that they have been learning, they have been using in life and their community outreach programs.

As part of the Christmas holiday spirit, the boys donated toys that they bought with their own money to needy

children in the city. During Black History Month Ware initiated a black history "Jeopardy" game to strengthen their knowledge of the subject.

"With most of our kids, it goes right in one ear and out the other unless you make it real," said Ware. "What I really want them to do is be able to relate to what happened before their time, their parents' time, maybe even their grandparents'."

Learning their heritage, Ware believes, is key to getting the young black men on the right path in life and keeping them out of trouble. The organization has received much praise from the community and school, and the group is growing so big that Ware has had to move the meetings out of her home.

"Everyday we are growing. I have young men asking me every day, 'can they join,'" said Ware. "I even have

See YOUNG MEN' page 10

Fear prevents reports of crimes

TRENTON—"Somewhere between 40 to 60 percent of bias related crimes go unreported every year," said Robin Parker, of Bias Crimes Unit in the State Attorney General's office. It is believed that victims of bias crime go through a "recognition" phase, when confronted with the idea of reporting the incident.

"Victims of bias crimes experience fear, shock and isolation because they have been attacked for being who they are—because of their race, religion, etc.," said Parker. "They often feel afraid and embarrassed to take steps in reporting what has happened to them."

A recent report released by the Union County's Prosecutors office showed Jewish and African-Americans were the target of most of the racial attacks, followed by Latinos, Caucasians, Caucasians, Latinos and Greeks. Almost half of the incidents were racially motivated; 37 percent were

religious attacks, 8 percent were the result of sexual orientation and 6 percent were ethnic in origin.

Victims of bias crimes are advised to report it so that something can be done to prevent them in the future and so that reports such as this one accurately represent what is happening. It is also suggested that victims seek support from advocacy groups, such as those offered by the NAACP and Anti-Defamation League.

The report said that only Kean College and six other communities saw a increase in report bias crimes, other cities saw a decrease or equal report of numbers. Overall, the number of bias incidents reported in the county decreased by 15 percent from 1995 to 81 last year.

"The statistics included in these reports are very general and usually show a trend from year to year, but

See FEAR' page 10

See REBELLING' page 10

Sho Shauna McCoy completes Washington Fellowship Program



Sho Shauna McCoy

BLOOMFIELD—Bloomfield College senior Sho Shauna McCoy believes in the power of individuals to make a difference in the world, and says "there's no time to lose." She recently returned from Washington, DC, where she was a participant in

the Washington Center's Minority Leaders Fellowship Program.

The 15-week program helps students throughout the country achieve academic, professional, civic and personal development goals.

During her stay in Washington, McCoy attended a one-week leadership and diversity seminar, sessions on a group public policy project, a presidential/Congressional lectures series, group discussions on leadership building and group dynamics, and a course on urban politics in America.

Her primary focus centered on a 14-week, full-time, credit-worthy, supervised and evaluated internship with the Institute for Educational Leadership.

"I see myself as being instrumental in the revitalization of urban areas," said McCoy. I want more youth to be able to achieve their goals and see that life is what you make of it."

Phi Beta Sigma to honor Congressman Donald Payne



SECAUCUS—The Chi Sigma Chapter of Northern New Jersey of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. will honor Congressman Representative Donald Payne at its 82nd Anniversary Eastern Regional Conference. Rep. Payne will receive the organization's Social Action Award for his outstanding leadership in Congress. Payne will also keynote the event scheduled for April 18 to 21 at the Meadowlands Hilton Hotel in Secaucus.

Janna Thompson named Employee of the Month



NEWARK—For 21 years, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center employee Janna Thompson has been treating people the way she likes to be treated. As a result, it comes as no surprise that the Montclair resident was recently named the medical center's Employee of the Month of February for diffusing a potentially volatile situation and calming down an agitated visitor that resulted in her recognition.

Community Calendar

MONDAYS

PLAINFIELD—K-9s lead a series of light aerobic exercises for senior citizens at the Senior Citizen Center at 305 E. Front St. For more info call 908-753-3506.

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

PLAINFIELD—Professionally led limbering and aerobic exercises at the YMCA, in the heated pool at 10:30 a.m. For more info call 908-753-3506.

THURSDAY MARCH 30

NORTH BRUNSWICK—Princeton Council of NJ presents "Shades of Learning," etchings and Monotypes by Joanne Scott at the Library Gallery 440 River Rd. For more info call 908-753-2110.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

NEWARK—POP Program "Black Workers and the Struggle for Economic Justice" in the Paul Robeson Campus Center, East Rutgers University. For more info call 201-648-7711 or 201-648-5976.

PLAINFIELD—"Getting Back to Work and Still Being a Mom," free seminar for women at Hope Haven 7201 W. 4th St. For more info call 908-753-3563.

NEWARK—ECC women's History Month celebration workshop on Effective Parenting Skills, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Women's center. For more info call 201-677-3385.

ROSELAND—The Prudential Cellulose Fiber Company's History Month discussion by Dr. Tracey Gottlieb, assistant professor of communications at Seton Hall University, on "The Effect of Advertising on Women" in the San Diego Room of Prudential's Roseland II Complex. For more info call 201-802-7134.

MONTCLAIR—Montclair State University Women's History Month lecture, "Stay Alive, Stay Alive" by Lieutenant Sell campus security. Noon, student center Rm. 417.

MONTCLAIR—Montclair State University Women's History Month lecture, "Dating Violence: Abuse Relationships," by Myrna Wertheimer, chair, teenage dating violence program. 4 p.m. Dickson Hall, Rm. 178.

NEWARK—Women's History Month event, Evening Coffee House, 5 to 7 p.m. in the main dining hall. For more info call 201-677-3206.

NEWARK—NUIE free lecture, "Critical Issues Facing the Engineering Profession," 2:30 p.m. in the A.J.W. Wilson Alumni Center. For more info call 201-596-6458.

PLAINFIELD—Broadway bus trip to see play Cats followed by lunch at Birmingham. Ferry sponsored by Plainfield Senior Citizen Center. For more info call 908-753-3506.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

CAMDEN—Shooting PLUS Theater in Creative Dramatics from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Rutgers University campus. Registration begins at 3:15 p.m. Pre-registration fee \$25.

PLAINFIELD—Atlantic City Bus Trip sponsored by Plainfield Senior Citizen Center. Bus leaves the center at 9 a.m. Cost is \$8. For more info call 908-753-3506.

NEWARK—ECC Women's History Month two-part series on Getting Your Financial House in Order, 6 to 8 p.m. in the Women's Center. For more info call 201-677-3395.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

NEW BRUNSWICK—Shooting PLUS

Teacher Seminar continues from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Rutgers University campus. Registration begins at 12:45 p.m. For more info call 908-932-9772. Pre-registration fee is \$25.

HACKENSACK—NJ Million Man March Statewide General Meeting, 2 p.m. at Mt. Olive Baptist Church, 280 Central Ave. Hackensack. For more info call Robert Robinson at 201-469-7757 or Min. Khairi Muhammad at 800-MARCH-19.

NEW PROVIDENCE—"Half off" Thrift clothing and rummage sale sponsored by SHARING, the non-profit organization from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 1441 Springfield Ave. For more info call 908-464-7790.

WATCHUNG—The Interfaith council 10th anniversary celebration and fundraising benefit, "Families Helping Families," from 2 to 5 p.m. in the Colorado Cafe. For ticket info call 908-753-4001.

DUNELLEN—The Dunellen United Methodist Church is hosting its 13th Annual Spring Fling Craft Show. For more info call 908-757-7326.

WOODBURGH—Eleventh annual Community Access Wayland Marathon at the Club at Woodburgh, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. For more info call 908-354-3040.

MONDAY, MARCH 25

MONTCLAIR—Montclair State University Women's History Month lecture by Peggy Orentlicher, author of Schoolgirls: Young Women, Self-Esteem and the Girls' Code. 7 p.m. student center ballroom.

MOUNTAINDALE—"Best Chef's Night" sponsored by the Washington Rock Girl Scout Council, featuring food and beverage specialties from various restaurants, bakeries and caterers. For ticket info call 908-232-3236.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

PLAINFIELD—March Birthday Party for center members at the Plainfield Senior citizen center at 1:30 p.m. For more info call 908-753-3506.

MONTCLAIR—Montclair State University Women's History Month event, Latina Day. Reading and reflections by author Carmenita Santiago, author of When I was Puerto Rican. Noon, Dickson Hall, Rm. 178.

EDISON—Enjoy "An Evening of Good Taste" at the Arc's fund-raiser at the Victorian Manor. The evening will include wine tasting, food sampling, a Casino Royale and an art auction. For tickets call Sarah Lewis at 908-754-7826.

STATEVILLE—American Diabetes Association one-day campaign to issue a "Wake up call" to the 58 million diabetics in America who are at risk for diabetes. For more info call 1-800-DIABETES.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

ROSELAND—The Prudential's Women's History Month celebration continues with a Health and Fitness Fair in the lobby at the Roseland II Campus. Dr. Lorraine Matis will discuss heart disease, breast cancer and osteoporosis. For more info call 201-802-7134.

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

MONTCLAIR—Montclair State University Women's History Month event, Women Students Organization Reception, with guest speaker Dr. Yvonne Thompson, author of "The Black Girl's Daughters." 3 p.m. student center, Rm. 411.

Jeopardy! contestant search

ATLANTIC CITY—The popular TV Quiz show Jeopardy! has launched a contestant search in New Jersey. The search will run until Friday, March 22 at Merv Griffin's Resorts Casino Hotel. Individuals who pass the initial test will be invited back for a final audition for the week of April 22. For more information call 609-340-6262.

The African Connection

EAST ORANGE—The East Orange Public Library is hosting an art exhibition entitled "The African Connection," by internationally ac-

claimed artist Mel Holston. The exhibition will be opened on Sunday, March 24, at 2 p.m. in the East Orange Room.

Holston, a native of Plainfield, studied at the Fashion Institute of Technology and Jersey City State College. His works have been on display in museums and festivals in New York, Chicago and California. For additional information of The African Connection call the Library at 201-266-5608.

Curtis Young named fennis pro of the year

Plainfield resident, Curtis Young owner of Young's Tennis has been named Eastern Region Tennis Professional of the Year for 1995. Young is currently junior development coordinator of PAYDITA and vice president of Plainfield Tennis Council (PTC). He is also founder of PTC Holiday Classic.

Ten Links holds fund-raiser luncheon

PLAINFIELD—Ten Links, Inc. Community Service Organization is hosting a fund-raising luncheon for the Ten Links Minority Mentoring Program busting the theme of "Saving our Youth: The Search for Role Models."

The luncheon will be held on Saturday, March 23 at noon at the Elks on West 3rd St. Individuals interested in becoming mentors can receive information at the fund-raiser. Donation is \$10. For additional information call 908-412-2733.

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** The after-tax example assumes a 30% tax bracket; your after-tax advantage may differ from the examples shown.
*** Based on the current prime rate of 8.25% + 1% margin.

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WINDY HILL:
100 West Street

City News salutes Women's History Month



Woman, the fruit of the earth,
the creator of all things beautiful,
we salute you.

We honor your courage
and determination.

We respect your strength and
power to endure all things.

We pay homage to your womb,
God's ultimate vessel.

Woman, you are the
epitome of greatness.

Black woman you
are greatness!!

—Sandra Wright

NATION

French TV host fined for racist jokes

by Nicolas Marmie

PARIS, FRANCE (AP)—The director of France's biggest TV network and a former television show host were recently fined Tuesday for "provoking racial hatred" with a parody song about beating up blacks.

A Paris circuit court fined TFI director Patrick Le Lay and the former host, Patrick Sebastian, \$6,000 each. It also ordered privately-owned TFI to read the complete ruling at the end of its evening news program on Saturday.

It is illegal in France to make public comments deemed as "provoking racial hatred."

On the Sept. 23 broadcast of the program "Osons" ("Let's Dare"),

Sebastian imitated extreme-right wing leader Jean-Marie Le Pen in singing a song called "Cassez du Noir" ("Beat Up Blacks").

Le Pen, whose party advocates expelling all immigrants, had been invited to the show to react. He said he found the song funny, and regretted that his butler and maid, "who are black," couldn't attend, "because they would have been amused."

Defense attorneys argued that the song was aimed at making fun of racists, not blacks. But court president Martine Ract-Madoux said it amounted to "an explicit call" to racial hatred.

The court noted that in the song, Sebastian repeated about 20 times that he "felt like beating up blacks."

In the parody, Sebastian sang that he "can't stand the foreigners, the darkies... flick on the lighters, we're going to set them on fire."

The court said that the prime-time public, "especially teen-agers, don't understand for sure that they are being asked to mock racists."

"The racist is presented as a sympathetic person, a poor desperate guy, pushed to the limit by foreigners," the court said.

That episode of "Osons" prompted an outcry by French intellectuals and anti-racism groups. Sebastian resigned soon afterward, saying he was disgusted by the flap. The program—which had been losing ground in TV ratings—was canceled.

Claims of bias in stray bullet case

ERIE, PA.—When he heard about the stray bullet that picked 14-year-old Emily Perilla out of a New Year's Eve crowd Eugene Ott scraped together \$475 to help pay her medical bills.

A month later he learned his only son, Reggie, had been charged with firing the bullet into the air from nearly a mile away.

Now, Ott and many in Erie's small black community are accusing prosecutors of racism for pursuing charges so severe that Reggie could get 23 years in prison. Reggie Ott, 21, is part of the 5 percent blacks in the 275,000 population of Erie County.

Sister Anne McCarthy, a spokeswoman for the Benedictine Sisters of Erie, said, "We don't know what would have happened if Mr. Ott had been a white college student, drinking a few beers and shooting a few shots in the air."

While Emily and her family watched fireworks in Perry Square, Reggie Ott attended a house party. He and fellow revelers fired their guns into the air shortly before mid-

night in a New Year's tradition police have tried to discourage.

The bullet that struck Emily burrowed six inches into her brain and stopped at the base of her skull. Emily now walks with a crutch, but her doctor expects her to make almost a complete recovery.

Ott is in jail, charged with aggravated assault, reckless endangerment, possessing an instrument of crime, carrying a firearm without a license and discharging a firearm within city limits. His \$80,000 bail has been reduced to \$25,000, and still his family can't raise the money.

Ott's supporters want prosecutors to drop all but the firearms charges, both misdemeanors. Eugene Ott wonders how authorities could believe Reggie intended to hurt Emily, and how they could press so many charges—especially aggravated assault.

District Attorney Joseph Conti denied racism played any role in the case. He said intent to harm is not necessary for aggravated assault—only recklessness.

National News at a Glance

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATOR WHO CREATED 'BLACK LIST' REINSTITUTED

Left: Hartmark, vice president for administration and finance for The State University College at Oneonta, N.Y., was recently reinstated to his post, much to the chagrin of the campus black students. Four years ago, Hartmark, then acting president, complied with a police request for a list of black male students as part of a police investigation into a burglary case. The 77-year-old white female victim had identified her assailant as a black male. As a result of the list, about 300 black males, Oneonta students as well as residents, were interrogated by police. Oneonta residents told Donovan had demoted Hartmark and placed him on unpaid leave. Donovan, who said a review of Hartmark's performance had been conducted, said his reinstatement was appropriate. —ONEONTA, NY

BROWN: BLACKS MUST CATCH THE BUSINESS SPIRIT

Black Americans must become part of the global marketplace, U.S. Commerce Secretary Ron Brown told the National Rainbow Coalition conference held recently in Chicago. "Political power without economic power doesn't mean a whole lot" to many, said Brown, former chairman of the Democratic National Committee. "There has to be some confluence of the two so that people understand with political power comes the ability to attain what should have been ours in the first place, to be able to participate fully in the economics of America, of the world," he said as quoted in The Chicago Daily Defender. He also said America needs to look at its racial and ethnic diversity as an asset instead of a liability. —CHICAGO, IL

N.C. SUPERMARKETS MARK CHECKS BY RACE, SEX

Employees at several Winston-Salem, NC stores mark checks received by customers according to their race and gender, according to a story in The Winston-Salem Chronicle. The markings on the checks were "B.F." (Black Female), "B.M." (Black Male), among other classifications. "I'm very offended by this. I think it's a terrible policy," said LaRue P. Cunningham, a middle-school teacher who had sent the newspaper copies of canceled checks she used for items at the Kroger Co., Food Mart and Stein Mart. A Kroger manager said the store was following a Forsyth County Magistrate's Office policy. But County Magistrate Stephen Honaker said his office only requires local businesses to identify people who are suspected of writing bad checks, not placing race and gender marks on them. —WINSTON SALEM, NC

OHIO RICH IN BLACK HISTORY

Ohio State Tourism Director George Zimmerman says the state is rich with African-American historic and cultural sites. "We have a wealth of significant Underground Railroad stops and other sites important to African-American history," says Zimmerman. Ohio has established a toll-free travel information line to offer callers complete up-to-date information on a variety of events and sites related to the African-American experience. The number is 1-800-BUCKEYE. —COLUMBUS, OH

RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL REJECTS PLEA TO REPLACE ASHE STATUE

The proposal of placing a statue of tennis legend Arthur Ashe on Historic Monument Avenue, near statues of Confederate heroes, have stood for years, has been approved again by the Richmond, Va. City Council, despite objections from the city's vice mayor and other opponents of the statue's location.

Study shows Africans populated world

WASHINGTON, DC.—The humans who populated Asia, Europe and the Americas may have been descendants of a small group from Africa.

A study of the genetic patterns of a single chromosome from 1,600 individuals in 42 worldwide populations, found extensive differences in the DNA of groups in the sub-Saharan Africa, but very little diversity among those in Asia, Europe, the Americas and Pacific Islands, researchers reported.

"This pattern of variation suggests that all non-Africans derive from a single common ancestral population which migrated out of northeast Africa," said Sarah Tishkoff, a Yale University researcher who is the lead

author in a study to be published this month in the journal Science.

She said that the migration probably occurred between 70,000 and 100,000 years ago, which is 100,000 years after it is thought that the anatomically modern human evolved in Africa. Tishkoff said the non-African population of the world could have sprung from a small group of maybe 1,000.



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OPINION

Are blacks still colored in Hollywood?

By Earl Ofari Hutchinson, Ph.D.

I've waited years for a film that honestly depicts African Americans sacrificing, struggling, and ultimately triumphing over adversity. My wait ended when actor-director Ted Reed turned Clifton L. Taubert's magnificent book, *Once Upon A Time When We Were Colored*, into a magnificent film.

It is a morality tale. In Taubert's segregated world of Mississippi circa 1946 to 1962, blacks face poverty, oppression, racist violence, economic destitution and fear. In Taubert's world, blacks show love, care, and devotion. In Taubert's world, blacks are not gangsters, pushers, pimps, whores, or spectacles of dysfunctionality. In Taubert's world, blacks nurture, protect and bond together.

Taubert's world is not fantasy, syrupy nostalgia, or r-mantic idealism. Millions of African Americans live in and share Taubert's world. It is a cautionary tale. It warns that blacks have strayed far from their heroic tradition and that pride and courage are in mortal danger of becoming lost commodities.

THE PASTOR'S WORD

They reflect the reality of the "hood." They don't fight out of 100 adult black males are in prison, on probation, or parole. Nearly six out of 10 young blacks reside in two-parent households. Teen pregnancy rates have dropped among black girls and soared among Latino and white girls. Three out of four black women have never received welfare payments. Seven out of 10 blacks are employed.

They like to see themselves on screen. For three decades, blacks have played cops, robbers, dope pushers, pimps, whores, presidents, corporate heads, aliens, astronauts, devils, zombies, and every role in between. By now they should be mature enough to discriminate in their movie tastes and demand films that portray them with more dignity than degradation.

Other ethnic aren't stuck in Hollywood's time warp. Jews want to see themselves in movies other than a Hester Street Italian-Americans want to see themselves in movies other than a Godfather. Chinese-Americans want to see themselves in movies other than a Shanghai Triad. Latinos want to see themselves in movies other than an American Me.

They employ black actors and actresses. *Do 100 millionaires, Glee With The Wind, Green Pastures, Cabin in the Sky, Song of the South, Tarzan, Jungle Jim, King Solomon's Mines*, and the pack of 1970's exploitation films. Hollywood never had a problem creating plentiful roles for them, cooks, maids, mummies, and clowns.

Despite the big bucks in black gangsta-decadence films, Hollywood isn't stampeding to bring out more black films. In 1995, it produced 10. Hollywood showed what it really thinks of blacks in movie land when it nominated a paltry 19 blacks for Oscars between 1963 to 1992.

Pioneer filmmaker Oscar Micheaux and current filmmaker Halle Gerima proved that there's a better way to create cinema opportunities for blacks. In the 1930's, Micheaux made independent films with a small budget employing hundreds of black actors, actresses, and technicians. Gerima did not wait for or beg Hollywood to bankroll *Sankofa*. He proved that a commercially successful independent black film can create jobs and

See ARE BLACK STILL COLORED? page 10

EDITORIAL

Cities need reality check

As the residents of Plainfield watch yet another major business close its doors, the question is, "Does anyone care about us?" Retailers have moved out of the city—as they have always done in many urban areas—and they never stop to look at its effect on the people in that community.

In the past 20 years, Plainfield has seen its once thriving downtown turn into a virtual ghost town. Tepper's, Steinbach's, Macy's, McCrory's, A&P, and now Foodtown, all of these stores that took our hard earned cash and/or employed us are now or soon to be (Foodtown closes April 13) empty and boarded up (with the exception of A&P, now Twin City Supermarket).

Yet as stores close, and people complain about business leaving, no one stops to ask why they leave or refuse to come to urban centers? Could it be these companies fear for the safety of their stores from the criminal elements? Or that they don't see the city as stable because of governmental infighting and disorganization? Or is it that they really aren't making any money because city residents shop elsewhere? Or could it be for reasons of race?

Whether it is because of drugs and violence, non-supportive city officials, and residents, or the unadmitted fact of prejudice, stores will continue to close. How can we expect others to care about us if we don't work to remove undesirable elements, work to elect officials that put the concerns and well-being of the city above petty disagreements, and work to support the stores in our communities instead of going to the mall or other towns.

It's time that we, as responsible business and community-minded citizens, wake up and realize that our cities are the way they are because of how we deal with and treat them. We need a reality check. We need to stop depending on others to keep our cities alive. We need to take the reins of our communities' economic destinies into our own hands—help at stores owned by people of the city, open businesses in the city, see to it that our city officials are doing their jobs.

Letter to the Editor

Legislatures should stop playing God

Dear Editor:

I wholeheartedly support the continuation of charity health care funding and urge the New Jersey State Legislature to take immediate action to assure that an adequate funding bill is passed as soon as possible.

This charity health care legislation is so important because there are a million residents in the state of New Jersey. Over half of them are employed but do not have health care benefits. For those individuals, as well as for our most vulnerable populations, New Jersey's urban hospitals provide the only medical care safety net.

The Legislature's failure to pass the necessary funding legislation continues to create a statewide health emergency because hospitals are unable to receive the resources to continue to administer medical services to uninsured patients. There have been no charity care payments to these hospitals since January 15. This is yet another example of politicians' lack of respect and insensitivity for the poor and disadvantaged members of their districts.

Urban hospitals have already provided millions of dollars in uncompensated medical care this year. They should not be required to continue without being reimbursed, at least, at the same levels that were appropriated in 1995. In the face of recent Medicaid cuts to the poor, charity care and Hospital Reimbursements are critical to the hospitals serving the poor in New Jersey's 30 urban centers. Pending charity care, legislation would appropriate less than half of what the uncompensated care was in 1992.

Finally I urge the legislature to support the continuation of the Hospital Relief amount of \$71.5 million. These funds, as they are aware, are matched by government and are targeted to specific disproportionate share related services.

Lloyd J. Oxford
President Black United Fund of New Jersey, Inc.

We need to encourage entrepreneurship

by Sharon Khadijah Vincent



We must carefully listen to, scrutinize and critique the latest rhetoric being packaged and presented to the public about supposedly "new" reforms to change the educational system in this country. While reform and change is absolutely needed, we shouldn't blindly follow initiatives that are designed to keep our young people permanently dependent and chained to an old system based on perpetual servitude for the broad masses of people.

Recently attended a seminar where several presentations were made that focused on how we should prepare young people for the future world of work. All of the presenters spoke about how we have to prepare young people to be good workers, and that we should

make sure they all understand, what employers want from their workers.

In line with this focus on producing "good workers," was the position that in our work-oriented society, education should be geared toward having young people focus on obtaining skills for specific careers at earlier ages, and away from them exploring their subjects and obtaining a wide variety of experiences to assist them in their overall development.

Presented in support of this view, was the position that it is necessary for most young people to go to college, because it doesn't really prepare them to be successful in the work place.

One presenter stated that according to his research, over 70 percent of the workforce do not need a bachelor's degree to work. He questioned the rationale behind taxpayers paying to support higher educational institutions, since the majority of the workforce doesn't really need them. He further stated that, we only need to support the top 20 to 30 percent of the workforce who have to go to college to become doctors, scientists, engineers and teachers—but, that's it!

As I listened to these presentations I never heard the words entrepreneurial or ownership used. I kept thinking, why should people only want to work for someone? What about encouraging, and teaching young people to become owners of their own businesses and enterprises? Productive employment is fine, but, what's wrong with promoting the development of individuals to become productive employers as well?

For some, it would appear that the shift to so-called "work-based learning," is so-called "discovery" for an updated version of child labor with a 90s flair. The feeling that the broad masses of people should be happy with forever working for their "bosses"

for the rest of their lives is old news—not new. The belief that only a few, privileged individuals should even aspire or have access to higher education is also old time.

Isn't it ironic, that after African Americans have struggled so hard and long to obtain the right for us to go to college and have access to institutions of higher learning, individuals are now trying to get us to believe that our children don't really need to worry about obtaining higher levels of education, since they won't need this to compete in the future workforce. They believe, our children should just focus on getting a job and being a good worker for life.

We shouldn't fall for this newly packaged version of educational reform and hype. In order for our young people to be competitive in the 21st century, they need more skills, not less. If we are to become self-sufficient and self-reliant, we need to encourage entrepreneurship, not stifle it. We should want to control the means of production because that's where the power is. Providing quality education to our young people, means that we will give them the opportunity to explore their full potential as individuals.

We should encourage creativity, promote diversity, innovation, initiative, etc. We need, or should encourage people to be enslaved or trapped forever in jobs that offer them little hope and meager opportunities.

It's essential that we carefully study and consider the long term impact and implications for our young people if this current trend continues to escalate. In the presentations of these so-called new educational paradigms, it's up to us to be analytical and critical thinkers, and to reject those paradigms that will result in future negative outcomes and fewer opportunities for our children.

police ride by all the time, see and pass drug dealers doing their trade right in front of them and do nothing.

The drug problem Stella Wright Homes points out one of the major, if not the major problem in the black community, drugs are the enemy of our people. What goes on in Stella Wright Homes is what goes on in most of the housing projects in our urban cities. The projects may not be as large, but the problem is the same. Projects in Irvington, East Orange, Orange, and other municipalities are the same.

Unfortunately it is not confined to the projects, but the open air drug market is the most thriving business in the black community. Drugs sold on our streets, openly, in our schools, openly in our homes, everywhere. The drug trade is big business. The biggest business in the black community.

Drugs drive almost every other

FROM CAPITOL HILL

Sports, patriotism and religion

by Askia Muhammad



There are two world champion athletes who have earned my eternal admiration—Muhammad Ali in my opinion, and Tommie Smith. Both are great champions, but it is their political courage away from the field of competition, which I love most.

Muhammad Ali, in my opinion, is "The Greatest" Heavyweight Champion of all time. He is the first three-time champion, and his style: "float like a butterfly, sting like a bee." In the sport, he has the heart of a champion.

Muhammad Ali's most courageous stand came on the day of his scheduled induction into the U.S. Army. He had been drafted, but he had to do was take one step forward to answer the call, "Cassius Clay," the officer announced, Muhammad Ali stood fast.

For that noble deed, the Muslim paid a painful price indeed. Muhammad Ali was prosecuted for draft evasion, convicted and sentenced to serve five years in prison. He was stripped of his championship by the boxing federations. Then he refused a license to box (and thereby earn a living) for several years. It took a Supreme Court decision to overturn his unjust conviction.

His courage in such dangerous inspired many young men (myself included) to resist participating in America's unjust war against Vietnam. The Viet Cong never called me a Nigger, he and many of us who became conscientious objectors said then.

In 1968 San Jose State University was the foremost track and field college in the nation. As a sports journalist, I was blessed to know Tommie Smith and John Carlos, two of the greatest ever to wear the spikes.

At the Mexico City Olympic Games that summer, my friends earned the Gold and Bronze medals in the 200 meters event, with Smith

shattering the World Record time, running the distance in under 20 seconds flat for the first time. That speed stood for more than 20 years!

Smith and Carlos engaged themselves into my heart, when they stood on the victory stand during the medal ceremony wearing black gloves with their fists clenched above their heads when the U.S. national anthem was played. The act was to protest racism in America. The picture of that courageous moment is a popular poster. It brings tears to my eyes when I see it displayed by college students who were not even born when my friends stood tall.

These heroes, too, paid a painful price. Unlike other sports heroes who were rewarded with lucrative professional sports opportunities, or promising coaching assignments, Tommie Smith and John Carlos were "whitelisted" and prevented from working in any but the most unimportant sports-related jobs.

Now comes my courageous

brother Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf, the star point guard of the NBA Denver Nuggets, and leader scored on that team. He has been suspended indefinitely by the league for refusing to stand and line up in a "dignified posture" during the U.S. and Canadian anthems before games.

Calling the American flag "a symbol of oppression, of tyranny," Abdul-Rauf is quoted as saying in published reports: "This country has a long history of racism. I don't think you can argue the facts. You can't be for God and for oppression. It's clear in the Qur'an. Islam is the only way. I don't criticize those who stand, so don't criticize those for standing. I won't waver from my decision."

Brother Abdul-Rauf is correct about the American flag. He is correct about American history, and I applaud his steadfastness in his faith. I wish, however, he would simply stand when the anthem is played out for the patriotism which he represents.

See SPORT, PATRIOTISM/page 10

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YOUTHBEAT

Kids' Calendar

NEW BRUNSWICK—Tickets now on sale at the State Theatre Box Office 19 Livingston Ave. for *Seaside Street Live! When I Grow Up*. Tickets are \$12.50 and \$10. For more info call 908-248-7468.

WEDNESDAYS THRU SUNDAYS
NEWARK—Astronauts: The Star Travelers, will be shown at the Newark Museum *Shedding Planetarium*, noon to 5 p.m. For more info call 201-596-6638.

THRU MARCH 30
JERSEY CITY—JCSO will offer its Saturday Gifted and Talented Education program for talented youth in grades four through six on consecutive Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. For tuition info call 201-200-3089.

MARCH 21 THRU APRIL 28
NEW BRUNSWICK—Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus at Madison Square Garden. For tickets call the MSG Box Office at 212-465-6741.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23
NEWARK—The Newark Public Library presents *The Magic of Memory*, 3 p.m. For more info call 201-733-5642.

JERSEY CITY—JCSO review course for the SAT through its Saturday course from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. For tuition info call 201-200-3089.

NEWARK—WBOG's Children Concert Series featuring Betty Carter and Her Trio at the Newark Museum. For more info call 201-624-6890.

MARCH 23/24
MILLBURN—Gingerbread Players & Jack in the Adventures of Peter Rabbit for ages 3-7. For ticket info call 201-378-4343.

MARCH 23 THRU APRIL 27
CRANFORD—There are no credit courses on learning the piano or guitar through Union County College's "Saturday Morning Music Festival" at the Cranford Campus. For more info call 908-709-7600.

SUNDAY, MARCH 24
SOMERSET—Frederick Harris Harmon at the Edward Nash Theatre Raritan Valley Community College. For more info call 908-725-3420.

WESTFIELD—The 1996 Children's Cultural Event featuring The Falcon's Magic Feather at the Temple Emanuel, 756 Broad St. at 4 p.m. For more info call 352-8375.

MARCH 27 & 28
CRANFORD—Teen Arts Festival at UNC 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. For more info call 908-558-2550.

Calendar listings should be sent two weeks in advance to ensure publication

Scholarship applications available

PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield-Brunswick branch of the National Association of University Women is offering scholarships to area high school seniors who are graduating in June of this year.

Applications are now available in the guidance departments of Plainfield, New Brunswick, Scotch Plains, So. Plainfield, Piscataway and Edison's J.P. Stevens High Schools. Applications are also available from Mrs. J. Moore of 608 Berkeley ave. in Plainfield and must be returned to her by April 27.

BAM hosts International Children's Festival



NEW YORK—Pictured above is a scene from Joseph Cashore's *Lullaby and Other Stories* presented as part of the Brooklyn Academy of Music's International Children's Festival, May 11 and May 12. The weekend festival highlights world music from Ireland, Morocco and Brazil in its World Music Festival, African-American dance with Chuck Davis' African-American Dance Ensemble and theater with the award-winning American marionette theatre, the Cashore Marionettes. The Kids Korner will offer free workshops in magic and drumming and a kids kafe. One-day festival passes are \$15 for children and adults. Single tickets for the dance ensemble and music festival are \$6. For ticket info call 718-636-4100.

Getting their share of the action



HOLMDEL—Students of the mentoring program of the New Jersey Natural Gas Company were guests at the annual shareholders' meeting at the Garden State Arts Center. The mentoring program was developed with the Asbury Park Public School System for career awareness and educational enrichment. Pictured above are (l to r) Jason Green-Leester, Verdel Wright, Anya Snelling, Cynthia Beaumont, Kelly Patterson, Altovese Coleman and Rosalyn Cope, teacher's aide. The students are seventh and eighth graders from the Asbury Park Middle School. Before the meeting they attended a reception and a computer demonstration of the Internet.

Auditions opened at Newark Boys Chorus School

NEWARK—The Newark Boys Chorus School will be auditioning for openings in the 1996-97 school year in September. The school is a fully-accredited academic/sci school serving boys in grades 4 through 8. Criteria for entrance is a natural singing voice and an enjoyment of singing. Previous vocal training, while helpful, is not mandatory. Because of the school's accelerated academic program, candidates must be enthusiastic about their studies with a willingness to work hard. For additional information on the auditions call the school at 201-621-8900.

Books for growing

Reading is essential and every child should start at an early age. City News will be publishing certain books that are available at bookstores to help you and your child increase his/her knowledge while having fun.

Kente Colors

by Debbie Chocolate
Illustrations by John Ward



Debbie Chocolate's joyful ode to Kente celebrates the beauty and tradition of this West African fabric that is now so popular in America. In *Kente Colors* (Walker & Company, March 1996, \$15.95) Her rhythmic verse shows the special meanings of colors and patterns while John Ward's glorious paintings show Kente as it is used and worn both traditionally and non-traditionally in Ghana, from gold dust crowns to babies' blankets. An afterword further explains Kente's rich symbolism. Readers young and old will delight in discovering the connections between African culture and the colorful cloth we love to wear.

Debbie Chocolate is the author of several books for young readers including *On the Day I Was Born*, *Imani in the Belly*, *My First African Book* and *Talk, Talk! An Ashanti Legend*.

The Period Book Everything You Don't Want to Ask, (But Need to Know)

by Karen Gravelle and Jennifer Gravelle
Illustrations by Debbie Palen



The Period Book (Walker & Company, March 1996, \$8.95) is a reassuring must-read for every girl about to have her period and every parent wishing to prepare a daughter for this important milestone. While a first period can be an unsettling experience, girls can feel confident about this new stage of their lives if they know what to expect. With clarity and sensitivity, Karen Gravelle and her teenage niece, Jennifer Gravelle, explore the physical, emotional, and social aspects of menstruation.

In a supportive and practical voice, they provide answers to the questions girls have about their period and related topics, such as pimples, mood swings, and increasing social pressures. Debbie Palen's illustrations provide a touch of humor and encourage girls to consider the changes their bodies are undergoing as an exciting adventure.

Camp Hoover plans opening house & work weekend

MIDDLEVILLE—The public is invited to tour Camp Lou Henry Hoover, a 328-acre campsite in Middleville, New Jersey on Sunday, March 24 from noon to 4 p.m. The Sussex County camp, owned and operated by Washington Rock Girl Scout Council, is offering 17 different programs to choose from at its summer seaway camp which is nestled in the woods and borders on Swartswood Lake. The open house will take place the last day of Work Weekend, which Girl Scout families and the public are invited to attend to help prepare the

camp for the summer season. Free lodging will be available to all helpers, beginning Friday evening, March 22. Work will take place on Saturday only and will include tree clearing, trail cleanup and retagging, painting, small repairs to tents and buildings, taking inventory, cleaning cabins, and much more. Those interested in touring the camp on Sunday do not have to participate in Work Weekend, but are welcomed to attend. For additional information, call the council service center at 908-232-3236.

Newark school participates in conflict resolution program

NEWARK—Staff and parents at Warren Street School in Newark are participating in a series of conflict resolution workshops to learn effective techniques for helping students find peaceful solutions to everyday disputes. Approximately 30 staff members and parents are involved in a three-day intensive training program, which focuses on developing skills and strategies to guide students' social and academic growth by examining their relationships with peers, teachers, parents and society in general. Funded through the 1996 Title I Improving America's Schools Staff Development Training Grant, the workshop is being conducted by Educators for Social Responsibility.

The first and second sessions of the workshop were held on March 4 and with the final phase scheduled for Monday, March 25 at Warren Street School. The training will include techniques for active listening, perspective taking, negotiation and mediation. Teachers will learn how to integrate conflict resolution activities into the regular curriculum and discipline management programs. Parents will also be encouraged to utilize the techniques at home. For more information on the district's conflict resolution initiatives, contact, Joseph C. Placide, Office of Public Information, at 201-733-7338.

Poetry at Pathside II
JERSEY CITY—Hudson County Community College is seeking poetry, short stories, and article entries for its Poetry at Pathside II scheduled for April 9 at the Historic Pathside Building, 25 Journal Square. The deadline for entries is March 15. For more information and entry forms, call Grace Patterson at 714-2229 or Joe Carmona at 714-2200.

This Week in Black History

MARCH 20
1852 - Uncle Tom's Cabin, by Harriet Beecher Stowe, is published in Boston, MA.
1883 - Jan Matzelger patents shoe lasting machine.

1950 - Dr. Ralph Bunche receives the Nobel Peace Prize for his work as a mediator in the Palestine crisis.

1957 - Spike Lee, actor, director, is born in Atlanta, GA.

1987 - *Hillbilly* film, directed/produced by and stars Robert Townsend.

MARCH 21
1955 - NAACP chairman, author, and civil rights pioneer Walter White dies in New York City.

1960 - 69 blacks are killed during a bus boycott demonstration in Sharpsville, Missouri in South Africa.

1965 - Martin Luther King, Jr., leads thousands of marchers from Selma to Montgomery, AL.

MARCH 22
1492 - Alonzo Pietro, explorer, sets sail with Christopher Columbus.

1882 - A. A. African American Shakespearean actor Morgan Smith dies in Sheffield, England.

1898 - J.W. Smith receives 2nd patent for lawn sprinkler.

1931 - Richard Henry Harrison receives the NAACP's Spingarn Medal for his role as "De Lawd" in *The Green Pastures*, contact, Joseph C. Placide, Office of Public Information, at 201-733-7338.

1943 - George Brown, singer, guitarist, is born in Pittsburgh, PA.

MARCH 23
1784 - Tom Molineaux, America's most celebrated early boxing success, is born into slavery in Georgetown, DC.

1810 - New York African Society is established.

1871 - Slavery is abolished in Puerto Rico.

1916 - Marcus Mosiah Garvey arrives in Harlem from Jamaica.

1938 - Maynard Jackson, first black mayor of Atlanta, GA, is born in Dallas, TX.

1953 - Yvette Marie "Chaka Khan" Stevens, singer, is born.

MARCH 24
1837 - Canada gives blacks the right to vote.

1912 - Dorothy I. Height, president of the National Council of Negro Women, is born.

1941 - *Native Son*, a play adapted from Richard Wright's novel of the same name opens at the St. James Theatre, NY.

1958 - Bill Russell, center for the Boston Celtics, becomes the NBA's MVP. He is again named in 1961, 1962, 1963 and 1965.

1968 - In New York City, Bob Foster wins the light heavyweight championship by knocking out Dick Tiger in four rounds.

1972 - Z. Alexander Looby, the first African American to serve on the Nashville City Council, dies in Nashville, TN.

1975 - Muhammad Ali beats Chuck Wepner in a 15-round bout to retain his world heavyweight crown.

MARCH 25
1887 - Samori, the builder of the Wassou Empire, signs with the French the Treaty of Bondoukou.

1931 - Ida B. Wells-Barnett, journalist, Civil rights and anti-lynching advocate, and founder of the NAACP, dies in Chicago, Nine African-American youths are arrested in Scottsboro, AL, for allegedly raping two white women. The subsequent conviction "Scottsboro Boys" based on hearsay evidence, will cause national and international protest resulting in several appeals and retrials.

1939 - Toni Cade Bambara, author, is born.

1942 - Archa Franklin is born in Memphis, TN.

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LIFESTYLE S

Seacoast Baptist honors community members

by Avery Grant

FORT MONMOUTH—The Seacoast Missionary Baptist Association recently held its Second Annual Moderator's Recognition Luncheon in the Fort Monmouth Officers' Club. The luncheon attended by 560 people, honored 72 persons for dedicated service to their respective congregations and the association.

Rev. Robert J. Perkins, pastor of Emanuel Baptist Church, Tinton Falls, stating the purpose of the luncheon, said, "The purpose of the luncheon is to do something for our unsung heroes. Initially it was to recognize our senior citizens, three scores and seven, but it was changed to recognize all who are going about doing God's business. It's good to give them roses while they are working in the vineyard."

Rev. Gerard A. Schenck, Sr. of Shiloh Baptist Church, Manasquan, as the association moderator, and Rev. Albert C. Clayton, of Macedonia Baptist Church, Lakewood, is the vice moderator and was the luncheon master of ceremonies.



Rev. Albert C. Clayton, master of ceremonies and vice moderator of the Seacoast Missionary Baptist Association, welcomes guests to the Moderator's Recognition Luncheon at the Fort Monmouth Officers' Club. In the foreground are two of the honored guests, left to right, Willie Rouse of Sixth Street Baptist Church, Lakewood, and Wesley Cope, Jr. of Mount Moriah Baptist Church, Cliffwood.

Smoke-free workplaces...the new trend

FAIRFIELD—The workplace trend is focusing on a smoke-free environment, and many smokers suddenly face increasing stress of getting through their workday without their cigarettes.

If this is happening in your place of business, the American Lung Association (ALA) of New Jersey can help. Many New Jersey companies are changing their policies to restrict or eliminate smoking areas. The re-

sult often leads to discontented employees who have difficulty functioning during the workday without smoking.

It may also translate into poor workplace and lack of production attitudes. *Working Smoke-free*, a new 90-minute program from the ALA, teaches coping techniques to make this change easier. Not a cessation program, this approach offers a way for employers to ease the way for their smoking employees to comply with company smoke-free policy.

The ALA is offering its services to area businesses to help both the smoker and non-smoker understand the value of a healthy work environment and take the first step towards dealing with this change. For additional information about the program call ALA at 800-LUNG-USA.

Blood donations needed

EAST ORANGE—The Blood Center of New Jersey (formerly the North Jersey Blood Center) has new blood drive locations and asking healthy adults to call and sign up to donate.

Donors must be 18 years of age. Seventeen year olds may donate with parental permission. There is no upper age limit for donors provided they have donated within the last 2 years, or have a doctor's note.

Donors should know their social

security number and bring a signed form of identification.

People with cold or flu symptoms should wait until they are feeling better before donating, and there is a 72-hour deferral for dental work, including routine teeth cleaning.

For those who have traveled outside the United States recently, call the blood center for eligibility criteria. For donation sites in your area call 1800 BLOOD NJ.

Important tips for airbag usage

FLORHAM PARK—Responding to heightened government concern about serious injury and death to children caused by airbags, the AAA New Jersey Automobile Club has called on all motorists to educate themselves on the proper use of child safety seats and airbags.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 15 fatal crashes involving airbags have resulted in the deaths of four children in rear-facing infant safety seats in the front seat of a car equipped with passenger-side airbags. Eleven have died from safety bag deployment while the child was unrestrained or improperly restrained.

AAA is alerting the public to the potentially lethal consequences of not knowing where to put a child's safety seat in relation to an airbag and offers these life-saving tips:

- Install child safety seats in the back seat of a vehicle whenever possible.
- Never put a rear-facing, infant safety seat in the front seat of a car equipped with passenger-side airbags. During a forward impact the airbag can hit a safety seat with enough force to seriously injure or even kill an infant.
- Older children in forward-facing safety seats may also be at risk in the front seat of a car equipped with passenger-side airbags.

The foundation is distributing "Kids in the Back" reminder cards to new parents through local Toys 'R Us stores, hospitals, maternity wards, pediatric practices and child care centers. To request a supply of "Kids in the Back" Cards, contact Paul Kiehlblock at 201-377-7200, Ext. 274.

Free tax assistance for Plainfield residents

PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield Senior Citizen Center is hosting a free income tax assistance with appointments available Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Center at 305 E. Front St., the Black United Fund Center on W. 7th St. and the Plainfield Library.

To be assisted bring all income information—W-2 and 1099 forms; receipts for deductions such as medical and charity; if you are a homeowner, bring your Real Estate tax receipt or a copy of it and any other tax receipts. Appointments must be made by calling the Senior Citizen Center. For additional information call 753-3506.

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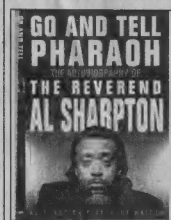
PLAINFIELD—Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center is sponsoring monthly free blood pressure screenings in conjunction with the American Heart Association's Heart Score '96 program. The first screening will be on Tuesday, March 26. Upcoming screenings will be on Tuesday, April 23, Tuesday, May 28 and Tuesday, June 25. For more information call 908-668-2555.

Food for thought

Go and Tell Pharaoh

The Autobiography of the Reverend Al Sharpton

by Al Sharpton and Anthony Walton



"...my villifiers and critics never tried to look at me as a man and as a person. How could they know what I was talking about if they didn't know where I'd been? How could they know if the conditions I was complaining about and demanding redress for were actual if they didn't come look? I was speaking for people who didn't normally have a voice. I was speaking from neighborhoods that didn't normally gain attention. I had to be dramatic. I had to be loud." —Al Sharpton, *Go and Tell Pharaoh*.

The news media and his political opponents, often characterize the Reverend Al Sharpton as a loud-mouthed con artist, a charlatan and an opportunist who has turned himself into a walking sound bite. But when he ran for the Senate in 1992 he pulled in 16 percent of the vote in the Democratic primary—including more than two thirds of the black vote statewide.

Two years later, in 1994, he pulled in 26 percent of the vote and proved once and for all that he not only had a constituency but had become a vital spokesman for an increasingly disenfranchised segment of the population. Now this

constant and controversial advocate for the rights of African-Americans tells his own story with the same passion and intelligence that he brings to the cause to which he has dedicated himself.

In *Go and Tell Pharaoh: The Autobiography of Reverend Al Sharpton* (Doubleday, April 1996; \$23.95), written with veteran journalist Anthony Walton, Sharpton offers an extraordinarily personal and powerful memoir. In his own characteristically forthright and penetrating style, Sharpton takes readers beyond the media caricatures and stereotypes that have defined him in the eyes of many Americans. In doing so, he reveals why he has become one of the most significant vibrant voices of the African-American community.

Sharpton addresses some of the most divisive issues facing America today, including structural flaws in the judicial system; inherent unfairness built into legal statutes along racial lines; preoccupation with crime committed by blacks; black nationalism and the growing rift between blacks and Jews; the need to open up the political process; and inaccurate media interpretations of the black community.

He also offers candid, no-holds-barred assessments of local and national political figures and celebrities including Jesse Jackson, Mario Cuomo, Don King, Ed Koch, David Dinkins, Michael Jackson, Geradine Ferraro, Robert Abrams and Elizabeth Holtzman.

Sharpton concludes his memoir with a look at where America is heading and a message African-Americans that stresses the need to understand the progress blacks have made, the importance of setting their sights on a destination, choosing the right heroes, and putting substance over symbolism.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Bill Board

MARCH 20-24
CRANFORD—Enjoy An Evening of Parodies by Christopher Durang at Union County College in the Roy Smith Theater. For showtimes and tickets call 908-282-2985.

FRIDAY, MARCH 22
PLAINFIELD—Origins But Goodies High School Hop to benefit the Plainfield High School Chorus at the school's gymnasium from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. For tickets call 908-753-3314 or 757-5155.

SUNDAY, MARCH 24
VAUXHALL—The Fantastic Seven presents a Cocktail Sip and All You Can Eat buffet at the George E. Cannon Lodge #558, 103 Valley St. in Vauxhall. Admission is \$5. For tickets call 908-417-0055.

MONDAY, MARCH 25
NEW YORK—Schomburg Center and the New York Public Library presents a women's jazz festival with Etta Jones and Houston Person, Wescho Okeke and Jazz Ensemble at the Schomburg. For tickets call 212-491-2206.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31
CHANGHE—Come out for A Touch of Spring Jazz Festival at the Peppermint Ballroom at 175 Central Ave. from 8:30 to 11 p.m. featuring Houston Person and Etta Jones, Cecil Brooks III Band, Jackie Jones Ensemble and Don Braden. For tickets call Ernest Jones at 908-572-8267 or Les Womack at 908-819-1453.

THRU MARCH 26
POMONA—Stockton State College presents an exhibition of Shovel Paintings by Barbara Bullock. For more information call 609-652-4214.

THRU MARCH 31
PRINCETON—The Misanthrope by Moliere at the McCarter Theatre. For info call 609-683-8900.

THRU APRIL 7
NEW BRUNSWICK—Fear Itself at Crossroads Theatre. For info call 908-249-5560.

THRU APRIL 21
NEW BRUNSWICK—The Miracle Worker at the George Street Playhouse. For info call 908-246-7177.

Calendar listings should be sent two weeks in advance to ensure publication

Lela Rochon stars in Mr. and Mrs. Loving

A SHOWTIME original presentation, *Mr. and Mrs. Loving*, the story of the Lovings of Virginia and their fight as an interracial couple to stay married is a historical milestone in American History. The movie will be aired on Sunday, March 31 at 8 p.m. Check local listings.

Richard Loving (Timothy Hutton) is a poor laborer from Central Point, VA, a sleepy rural town where blacks and whites have lived in harmony since anyone can remember. So it is no surprise when Richard falls in love with Mildred ("Bean") Jeter (Lela Rochon), a beautiful young black woman.

Mixed race relationships are accepted in Central Point as part of the



Lela Rochon and Timothy Hutton as Mrs. and Mr. Loving

natural order. Marriage, however, is illegal under a miscegenation law dating back to the slave era. When Bean gets pregnant, however, Rich-

ard insists on marrying her despite the law and their families' attempts to dissuade them.

Richard and Bean go to Washington, DC to get married. Upon their return to Central Point, the newly-weds are taken from their nuptial bedroom and arrested.

Found guilty, the Lovings are given a choice: three years in jail or a 25-year banishment from the state. Jail not being an option for a family with a baby on the way, the Lovings choose freedom in a squalid flat in the poorest black neighborhood in DC.

Inspired by Martin Luther King Jr.'s speeches during the March on

Washington in 1963, Bean writes a letter to then Attorney General Robert Kennedy requesting that the law be changed so that she and her husband can return to their home. The letter reaches a young ACLU lawyer, who sees a great opportunity for social justice and personal fame in this case, ripe for Supreme Court adjudication.

Seven years after their banishment, *The Lovings*' case is heard by the Supreme Court. In a landmark ruling, the Court declares the Virginia law unconstitutional. All miscegenation laws still in effect in 17 other states are struck down and the ban on interracial marriage is finally ended.



Ms. Hudson Valley '96 Tiffany Williams

Tiffany Williams to Perform at the ARC Fund-raiser

EDISON—Tiffany Williams, a Plainfield resident and reigning Miss Hudson Valley 1996 will be a guest vocalist for The ARC of Union County's "Evening of Good Taste" at the Victorian Manor in Edison on Thursday, March 28.

The event will feature food and wine tasting, an art auction and casino seminar.

Williams, a 1994 graduate of Rutgers College is currently enrolled in Rutgers University's graduate program for Public Administration and plans to attend law school in the fall.

She will be competing for the Miss New Jersey title in May, the next step in the Miss America Pageant. Her pageant platform is domestic violence.

She has shown her commitment to this in her volunteer work for Project W.I.N. (Women In Need), the Camden County Domestic Violence Working Group and the Violence Against Women Task Force. Williams is also special assistant to Sen. Bill Bradley, where she provides legislative insight and assistance to the domestic violence community in South Jersey. For tickets to the fund-raiser call 908-754-7826.

Hank Aaron: Chasing The Dream captures Oscar nomination

TBS Superstation's *Hank Aaron: Chasing The Dream* garnered an Oscar nomination for Best Documentary Feature at the 68th Annual Awards of the Motion Picture Arts & Sciences in Los Angeles.

Hank Aaron: Chasing The Dream, told with Aaron's full cooperation and featuring narration written from his own words, tells the story behind Aaron's record-breaking home run and the incredible obstacles he

had to overcome to break Ruth's record. Complementing the story of Aaron's home run is memorabilia footage of his baseball career and interviews with such baseball stars as Willie Mays, Reggie Jackson, Barry Bonds, Eddie Mathews and Sandy Koufax, as well as political and social leaders and other people directly influenced and inspired by his accomplishments.

The film was executive produced

See CHASING THE DREAM/page 10

Swinging and dancing at the John Harms Theatre



Members of the Harlem Blues and Jazz Band (l) and the Alvin Ailey Dance Troupe.

ENGLEWOOD—Get in the swing of old-time jazz with The Harlem Blues & Jazz Band at the John Harms Theatre on Friday, March 29 at 8 p.m. This seven piece band plus vocalist is an all-star assembly of musicians who have been playing great music together for over 20 years.

It was in Harlem that America's greatest black jazz musicians gathered in the midst of the Depression to create a glittering, glamorous life-style built around jazz. On Saturday, March 30, the Harms will also host the Dance



Theater of Harlem. Alvin Ailey and the Joffrey Ballet in an event entitled "A Celebration of Dance."

In this evening experience the combined incredible talent of these dances to the music of Stevie Wonder, Elton John, The Pointer Sisters and more. A Celebration of Dance will begin at 8 p.m. For tickets for both events call 201-567-3600.

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BUSINESS

Business Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

NEWARK—Regional Business Partnership's Business Breakfast Series workshop, topic: Business Financing Solutions for Your Business, 8 to 10 a.m. at the Newark Club. For more info call Joe Barbi at 201-242-6237, ext. 222.

NEWARK—Regional Business Partnership's International Business Over Breakfast workshop, topic: Doing Business with China, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Newark Club. For more info call Joe Barbi at 201-242-6237, ext. 223.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22

NEW YORK—Successful Business-to-Business Product Management sponsored by the American Management Association. For more info call 1-800-262-9699.

MARCH 25 TO 29

CHERRY HILL—NANC will hold three Superfund Training workshops at the Professional Safety Training Services Center at 12 North Springdale Rd. in Cherry Hill. For more info call 202-347-8259.

MARCH 26 & 27

NEW BRUNSWICK—Twenty-first Annual Energy Technology Conference at Rutgers Continuing Education Center. For workshop times call 908-679-8351.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

PITTSBURGH—Pittsburgh Regional Minority Purchasing Council's 20th annual Trade Fair at the Pittsburgh Hilton & Towers Gateway Center. For more info call Laura Hurl at 412-391-4423.

MARCH 29 TO 31

PRINCETON—Nineteenth Annual Career Conference sponsored by Minority Interchange Inc. at the Merrill Lynch Conference and Training Center. For more info call Elaine Rogers at 212-576-6634.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

JERSEY CITY—Free seminar, How Important is Personal Financing? at JCSC, 10 to 11 a.m. For more info call 201-200-3089.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

HOLD THE DATE—Join the Regional Business Partnership for a networking cruise aboard the Spirit of New Jersey. For more info call 201-242-6237.

Calendar listings should be sent two weeks in advance to ensure publication

Internet parade passing by most small businesses

PARK RIDGE, IL—While the stampede of consumers rushing to gain access to the Internet is growing by the day, the majority of owners of small and mid-size companies are waiting for a good business reason to suit up for cyberspace.

More than 81 percent of 1,049 small and mid-size company owners surveyed nationwide by management consultant George S. May International Co. said they do not use the Internet for any business-related purpose. Within a year or two, however, more than 40 percent of those surveyed said they expect to be using the Internet for business.

Business benefits unclear

"Until the benefits of working on the Internet become more obvious, most owners of smaller companies don't have the time to worry about it," said Donald J. Fletcher, president of George S. May.

"Improving time management

skills is a priority for many business owners. Those using the Internet understand that it can be a time-consuming process, and extra time is a luxury many business owners just don't have."

Those in the service industry registered the highest level of Internet usage, with 23.4 percent (50 of 214) saying they use the Internet for business purposes. The manufacturing category shows the greatest anticipated Internet growth.

Today, 30.8 percent of manufacturers surveyed (40 of 192) use the Internet for business purposes, but company owners predict that total will grow to 63.7 percent in the next year or two.

The lowest Internet usage was registered in the "other" category (including wholesalers, distributors, construction and trucking) at 10.3 percent (20 of 195 respondents). Among those in retail businesses, 18.9 per-

cent (44 of 232) use the Internet, while 18.5 percent (40 of 216) in health care use it.

The biggest reasons business owners gave for not utilizing the Internet are "no need" (mentioned by 30.2 of those surveyed) and "lack of time" (cited by 18%).

Among the leading reasons to use the Internet for business purposes are "research/gathering information" (88%), "sales leads" (28%) and "communications" (24%).

"The Internet offers unlimited potential for communications," Fletcher said, "but many business owners are holding out until the options are more clearly defined and the benefits are obvious."

National news

Continued from page 3

of high enough quality to be placed there. The statue, created by sculptor Paul Pasquale, shows Ashe, book in one hand and tennis racket in the other, with four children at his feet looking up to him. Suggested alternative sites for the statue include a proposed Black Sports Hall of Fame, or an athletic center that bears his name. **RICHMOND, VA**

More black newspapers on-line

ATLANTA, GA—The Atlanta Inquirer and The Black Voice News of Riverside, Calif., are two new black newspapers additions to cyberspace. Both papers now have "home pages" on the World Wide Web, the fastest growing part of the Internet. (Home pages are personal sites on the Web in which items can be "posted" for others to see.)

The two announcements come in the wake of a newspaper explosion on the Web, with more and more newspapers of all types getting online.

The Inquirer and The News join The Afro-American as black papers now available in cyberspace. The Inquirer's Web address is "http://www.mindspring.com/~cweast/inq.html," and The News's Web address is "http://www.eet.org/bvbnv". The Afro's home page's address is "http://www.afroam.org".

The National Newspaper Publishers' Association is planning to launch a home page soon.

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Opening a World of Opportunities for Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises

AUJRN honors college footballers



The American Urban Radio Networks (AUJRN) recently honored its Black College All-American football players as selected by the Sheridan Broadcasting Network. Shown above at the 22nd Annual event is Brigadier General Jack W. Kilp of the United States Marine Corps with the 1995 SBN All-American Defensive Team which includes: Hugh Hunter-CL, Hampton University; Kendell Shello-CL, Southern University; Reggie Lee DL, Florida A&M; Earl Holmes LB, Florida A&M; Kenye Roundy-LB Southern University; Kevin Williams LB, Hampton University; Telley Priestner-DB, Virginia State; Picaso Nelson-DB, Jackson State; Markko Maddox-DB, Albany State; Willie Oglesby-DB, Bethune-Cookman; and Alex Campbell-P, Morris Brown College. Photo by Henry Robinson for AUJRN

Are blacks still colored?

Continued from page 4

wood to bankroll *Sankofa*. He proved that a commercially successful independent black film can create jobs and opportunities for dozens of blacks in the 1990's.

They put dollars in black pockets. They put dollars in the pockets of wealthy investors, executives, corporations, distributors, theater chain owners, and elite screenwriters. Winston Groom, the author of *Forrest Gump*, found this out. Gump grossed \$650 million.

Paramount used creative accounting to show a net paper loss on the film. It paid Groom a measly \$350,000 and paid star Tom Hanks and the director \$3 million. It took negative publicity and the threat of a lawsuit to get Paramount to shell out a few more bucks to Groom.

Terry McMillan reportedly sold the rights to *Waiting to Exhale* for less than \$1 million. The film grossed \$60 million. Alice Walker thought she beat Hollywood's "creative accounting" methods when she signed for

three percent of the gross revenues for Steven Spielberg's screen adaptation of *Color Purple*. The movie was a huge hit. Spielberg and Warner Bros. made a mint. And Walker by her own account got only "a fraction" of what she thought the movie earned her. By contrast, New Line Cinema paid screenwriter Shane Black \$4 million for *The Long Kiss Goodnight* (not released) and \$1.75 million for *The Last Boy Scout* (a flop).

Blacks claim they are sick and tired of seeing negative images on the screen. The day I see champagne and caviar, toasts, parties, seminars, and cruises that celebrate a film like *Once Upon a Time I'll be free*.

But as long as African Americans pay Hollywood to shape and define their image they will always be colored.

Dr. Earl Ofari Hutchinson is the author of *The Assassination of the Black Male Image: His book, Beyond O.J. Race, Sex, and Class Lessons for America* was released January 1996.

Sports, Patriotism

Continued from page 4

American flag represents, out of respect for his team-mates, and out of respect for the tens of thousands of fans whose ticket purchases pay his salary, and who will not understand how deep his contempt for "the stars and stripes" deservedly might be.

If Brother Abdul-Rauf was a citizen of an Islamic nation, wouldn't he want Americans to show respect when his country's anthem was played? I would. I would also like to remind my

Muslim brother of two ayat (verses) in the Holy Qur'an.

Both are from Sura (Chapter) 8, Voluntary Gifts: 27, "O you who believe, be not unfaithful to Allah and the Messenger, nor be unfaithful to your trusts, while you know." 61, "And if they incline to peace, incline thou also to it, and trust in Allah. Surely He is the Healer, the Knower."

This chapter deals with the first Muslim victory in the Battle of Badr, and how treaties and agreements are to be reached with those who do not believe as Muslims believe. In one verse, and in the accompanying com-

Rebelling

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gists increasingly argued that blacks were created separately and were an inherently inferior race.

It was believed that blacks were nothing but grown children and needed to be treated as a child. Therefore, they needed paternal guidance, restraint and protection of his white masters. What would happen, apologetes wondered, if slaves were freed? Many southerners believed that chaos would ensue.

Southern apologists faced the difficult intellectual task of justifying a system that ran counter to the main ideological directions of nineteenth century American society: the expansion of individual liberty, mobility, economic opportunity, and democratic political participation. However couched in the language of science, law, history, or religion, the underlying motive of these various justifications, though rarely admitted, was that slavery was profitable.

Young men

Continued from page 1

young women asking when I am going to start a group for them. Hopefully with all the support we are receiving and when I finish my classes in June we will be able to."

Emphasizing education as a key to getting ahead is doubly impacted when the boys learn that she is attending college for her second degree. We already have a degree in business and is presently working towards a degree in education. She will finish her work classes this spring and her student teaching in the fall semester. Recently the group donated

mentary by translator Maulana Muhammad Ali. Muslims are advised that even "if they intend to deceive thee under cloak of peace, even in such a case peace is to be accepted."

Dear Brother, Trust Allah. Accept the "peace," even if the NBA "intends to deceive thee." Show respect to all sovereign nations, and peoples as you would want to be respected.

Instead of forfeiting \$32,000 per game for the remainder of the NBA season, take that money and donate it in "zakat" (charity). "There are many, many righteous causes which would benefit from just a fraction of that amount of money, which by the end of the season will total almost \$1 million."

money that they had raised to Second Baptist Church in Roselle, for the church's feed-the-homeless program. The boys had raised the money to buy T-shirts with the group's name, but when an anonymous benefactor offered to donate them they decided to take the funds and put it work at something positive.

Plans of field trips and community involvement in the future are in the works and with the community's support and more parents becoming involved things are definitely taking off for Men of Color Making a Change.

Hospitals Merge

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hospitals and four health centers, according to Andrew Greene, chief executive officer of the whole system, which includes Rahway Hospital in Rahway and Raritan Bay Medical Center in Perth Amboy and Old Bridge.

A part of the agreement, Mahlenberg patients will be able to utilize the specialty services at Robert Wood that the Plainfield hospital does not offer, such as pediatric intensive care unit. And the alliance will position hospitals to better negotiate with insurance providers, said Greene.

Fear

Continued from page 1

aren't very good indicators as to why the reports occurred," said Parker. "They also don't show the hundreds of unreported incidents that occur."

Statewide, there were over 1,000 bias incidents reported incidents reported in 1994, with Moonmouth, 111 incidents, leading all counties and Salem with six posing the lowest number. Union County tied with Ocean for a ranking of fifth on the list.

Motorists

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Deputy Public Defender Jeffrey P. Wintner in Woodbury, who argued the Gloucester County profile stop case, said he and his colleagues believe the practice still exists.

"We believe it is still going on on the turnpike and we hear that from other attorneys in the state," he said.

Raymond F. Flood, president of the Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys of New Jersey, said the State Police continue to stop a disproportionate number of blacks, Hispanics and young white males, especially on Interstate 80 and the turnpike.

TB awareness day

NEWARK—March 24 is "World TB Day" and with the help of Directly Observed Treatment (DOT) we are slowing the spread of the deadly disease. This program and others will be the focus on the World Health Organization's observance on Sunday, March 24.

Chasing the Dream

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by Denzel Washington and Debra Martin Chase with Mundy Lane Entertainment and Mike Tollin and Brian Robbins of Tollin/Robbins. Tollin was also writer and director of the film.

Hank Aaron: *Chasing the Dream* premiered on TBS Superstation on April 12, 1995 and will be re-broadcast on Sunday, March 24 at 7 p.m. (ET). The film is the first Turner Original Production to receive a documentary feature Oscar nomination.

Viscarrondo-DeSoto

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panic Policy, Research and Development in the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs. She also served as Executive Director of Aspira, a Latino education and resource center headquartered in Newark.

The announcement of the board's ratification of Viscarrondo-DeSoto's nomination was made after the February board meeting by William J. Marino, Chairman of United Way of Essex and West Hudson board and president and CEO of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Jersey.

"We are pleased Ms. Viscarrondo-DeSoto has accepted the position. The organizations that

nominated her have benefited from her dynamism, her leadership and her advocacy," said Marino. "And just as those nominating organizations have benefited from Ms. Viscarrondo-DeSoto's talent and vision, the United Way board looks forward to the entire community benefiting from having her at the helm."

Viscarrondo-DeSoto is looking forward to her new position. "Partnership is what it's all about. I want to develop and maintain an effective partnership between United Way and the entire community to deal with our urgent needs and identify whether we can realistically address them tomorrow or a year from now."

"I'm recommending Mercy for any family with Medicaid."

- Louis Gossett, Jr.

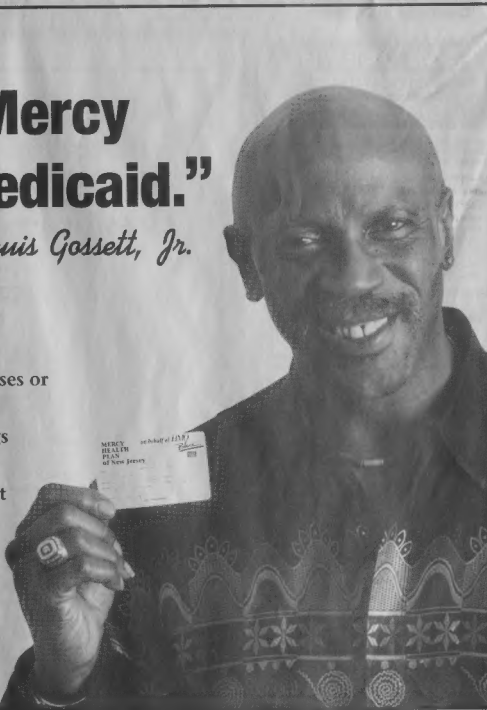
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